

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION
QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING**

December 10, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
Indiana Government Center, South Building
Conference Room 4 & 5
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Jeanne Mirro, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Jeanne Mirro, Earl Williams, Suzie Rentschler, Linda Levell, Pam Hicks, Jon Ford, Trevor Yager, Gil Cárdenas, Karen Ellerbrook, Kelly Schreckengast, Jeff Kirk, Linda Goad, Dick Stifel, Irene Smith-King

Members absent: Judy Hess

IAC staff present: Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, Bobbie Garver, Kristina Davis, Susan Britsch, Rex Van Zant, Laura Frank

Guests: Sue Burk (Regional Arts Partner Consortium), Susan Zurbuchen, guest facilitator (Butler University)

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commission Chair Jeanne Mirro called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves. She then extended thanks to the Indiana Coalition for the Arts (INCA) for hosting a fine reception on Thursday December 9. Special thanks went to Commissioner Pam Hicks, who made the arrangements for a wonderful evening reception at a private home in the Greenwood area.

2. **Consent Agenda.** Commissioner Stifel moved to adopt the consent agenda. Commissioner Hicks seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Chairperson's Report.**

A. Governor's Office Issues. Ms. Mirro reported that there have been no recent Commission appointees from the Governor. Commissioner Smith-King's 2d term expired in June, 2010. Commissioner Schreckengast has not received notice of her re-appointment to a second term as Commissioner.

B. Open Meeting Law. The IAC is seeking an opinion from the Office of the Governor concerning attendance by Commissioners at committee meetings. The Open Meeting Law states that those who are not in physical attendance may not vote; the question has arisen whether this rule necessarily applies to committee meetings. It seems that many state agencies are finding it increasingly difficult to conduct board

business because of the required travel. IAC Executive Director Lewis Ricci added that IAC is looking into other methods of holding meetings electronically.

C. Regional Partner Issues. Ms. Mirro reported that the Executive Committee at its recent meeting reviewed the Regional Partnership of the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana (Evansville). Several factors have pointed to ACSWI not fulfilling its obligations as a Regional Arts Partner, including low scores on its RAP application, board absences, lack of sufficient staff, and the failure to apply for its Technical Assistance Grant for 2011. The Executive Committee voted to send a written mid-cycle evaluation to the members of the ACSWI board.

D. FY 2012 – 2013 State Budget. Ms. Mirro reported that IAC was tasked to submit a budget request for FY 2012-13 based on the current FY 2011 budget, which is itself a 15% reduction from the original legislative allocation. IAC has done so, but has also submitted a \$250,000 “change package” seeking to restore project grants state-wide. The State Legislature begins its next session in January and the Governor will be submitting his budget request.

E. Muncie Cultural District. Ms. Mirro previewed the Program Evaluation Committee report by stating that the independent panel which met to score applications for designation as a state-wide Cultural District recommended that none of the applications be approved this year. Among the applicants was City of Muncie, which has already begun an appeal process. However, Ms. Mirro clarified, the full Commission has yet to vote on the recommendation of the Program Evaluation Committee, and so there has been no decision rendered upon which to base an appeal. An appeal from City of Muncie, properly presented, may be considered by an ad-hoc committee of Commissioners, to be appointed by the Chair.

F. Conference Attendance. Commissioner Karen Ellerbrook reported enthusiastically on her attendance at the National Association of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) Assembly 2010, held last October in Austin, Texas. She reiterated her strong desire for IAC to be more deeply involved in arts education as a primary part of its mission. Other attendees included Lewis Ricci, Michelle Anderson, and Kristina Davis of the IAC Staff. Commissioner Jon Ford reported on his attendance at the Creativity World Forum, held last November in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Funding for attendance by Mr. Ford and Mr. Ricci was provided by Arts Midwest.

4. Executive Director’s Report.

A. Year-to-Date Financials. Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) showing the IAC budget current through October 31, 2010. He offered thanks to IAC Deputy Director Michelle Anderson who is responsible for keeping within the budget.

B. Technical Assistance/Capacity Building Efforts. Mr. Ricci reported that several opportunities are in the planning stages for 2011, including: 1) Community Arts/Creative Communities Colloquium and Consultancy with Ball State University; 2)

ArtsLab Strategic and Financial Planning Seminar, in conjunction with Arts Midwest, the Michigan Arts Council and the Ohio Arts Council; 3) Fund Raising Strategies for the Arts with the Indiana University Center on Philanthropy; 4) Building Organizational Diversity with the Institute for Latino Studies at University of Notre Dame. Mr. Ricci also mentioned the possibility of a retreat including IAC staff and Commissioners, Regional Arts Partners and other state-wide partners in conjunction with the announcement of the new IAC Strategic Plan in the spring of 2011.

C. Arts Education Update. IAC Arts Education Coordinator Susan Britsch reported that IAC is considering more helpful ways to utilize Arts in Education funds; many schools which might otherwise apply for AIE grants are not doing so due to lack of administrative staff or other considerations. Ms. Britsch also reported that IAC has received a \$3,000 grant to subsidize travel expenses for participants in the state Poetry Out Loud finals which will be held in Indianapolis on February 26, 2011 at the Central location of the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library.

D. Cultural Districts Update. IAC Community Development Manager Kristina Davis reported that the independent panel which met last September 22 to review applications for designation as a State-Wide Cultural District, recommended that none of the applications be approved, based on the scoring. The recommendation will be brought before the full Commission under item 5a of today's meeting. Ms. Davis went on to briefly explain the five criteria which were considered by the panel: 1) Community Profile; 2) Cultural Development; 3) Community Development; 4) Economic/Tourism Development; 5) Management & Planning.

E. Indiana Artisan Program Update. Mr. Ricci reported that the 2-year-old Indiana Artisan Program is nearing the end of its state sponsorship, and is well on the path to become a not-for-profit entity in its own right. The transition is underway and will be completed over the winter months. The first Artisan Marketplace will be held on April 15 – 17 at the State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis.

F. ArtsWork and NEA Accessibility Leadership Award Update. Mr. Ricci reported that IAC Accessibility Coordinator Kristina Davis was invited to attend and make a presentation to the NASAA Assembly 2010 held in October in Austin Texas. Thanks to the efforts of Ms. Davis, the IAC was the 2009 winner of the national Accessibility Leadership Award.

G. Foundation Roundtable Update. Ms. Ellerbrook is endeavoring to put together a working list of attendees for a proposed state-wide Foundation Roundtable, the purpose of which will be to bring major funding groups together with arts and education constituents to discuss a large-scale view of arts funding in the state.

Ms. Mirro called for a 10-minute meeting break at 10:40 a.m.

5. Committee Reports.

A. Program Evaluation Committee. Committee Chair Earl Williams reported on the most recent meeting of the PEC, held on November 18. The PEC voted to uphold the recommendations of three independent panels which met to review applications for State-Wide Cultural District Designations, Technical Assistance Grants, and Arts in Education grants, respectively.

1. Mr. Williams moved that the full Commission accept the recommendation of the Program Evaluation Committee that none of the current applications for Cultural District Designation be approved. Ms. Mirro seconded the motion. The motion passed.

2. IAC Community Development Manager Bobbie Garver reviewed the process for awarding Technical Assistance Grants for 2011. Mr. Williams moved that the full Commission accept the recommendation of the Program Evaluation Committee that all of the applications for Technical Assistance Grants be approved, with the presumption that IAC staff will work closely with two lower-scoring applicants (total of three grants) in order to assure their full participation and compliance. Ms. Smith-King seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Mr. Williams moved that the full Commission accept the recommendation of the Program Evaluation Committee that the eight applications which scored above 80 in an independent panel review be approved to receive Arts in Education grants for 2011. Ms. Ellerbrook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

B. Advocacy and Awareness Committee.

1. Committee Chair Jon Ford reported on recent developments for the 2011 Governor's Arts Awards. The glass artist who will create the actual awards has been selected, but the contract has not yet been negotiated and so the name of the artist will not be made public at this time. Mr. Ford also reported that the A & A Committee met, along with the GAA Planning Committee, on December 9th to hear presentations from two potential host communities, those being South Bend/Mishawaka, and Michigan City/Laporte. The recommendation of the joint committee is to award the hosting honors to the City of South Bend. Mr. Ford moved that South Bend/Mishawaka be selected to host the 2011 Governor's Arts Awards. Mr. Yager seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Ford also encouraged all in attendance to submit nominations for the award.

2. Mr. Ford reported about on-going advocacy efforts in connection with the opening of the 2011 State Legislative Session in January. Letters of introduction from IAC to all new legislators have been mailed. INCA president Tetia Lee announced that the 2011 Arts Day at the Statehouse will be Monday February 21.

3. IAC Communications Manager Laura Frank presented a slide-show version of the new IAC Bi-Annual Report to the Legislature. Because of funding restrictions state-wide on printing costs, the report will be offered in electronic format

only. It reports on the impact of IAC grants in each county of the state, relating the data to legislators who are from each county and region. Mr. Ricci offered thanks to Ms. Frank, to IAC Marketing and Communications Director Rex Van Zant, and to Ms. Anderson for preparing the report.

C. Cultural Trust Administrative Board. CTAB Chair Kelly Schreckengast presented a handout (attached) showing the most recent data on the Trust Fund. As of October 31, 2010, the fund balance was \$1,982,462.31. The CTAB also recently voted to approve usage of interest in the account which was accrued before the account reached the \$1,000,000 threshold. The additional \$89,000 will be used to fund Arts in Education grants in FY 2012 and 2013. Approximately \$21,265.00 in accrued interest will be withdrawn from the account in the coming weeks to fund the approved Arts in Education Grants for FY 2011.

D. Committee on the Future. This item was deferred to the Strategic Planning Session, item #7 in this meeting.

E. Regional Arts Partner Update. Regional Arts Partner Consortium president Sue Burk from Region 5 (Arts Place) gave a brief report on the latest meeting of the Consortium, which was held on December 9th.

7. Strategic Planning Session. Mr. Ricci reported briefly on the five public meetings which were held earlier in the fall to garner input for the Strategic Plan. These meetings were held at Hanover College, Butler University, Ball State University, Valparaiso University, and Indiana State University; he presented a handout (attached) summarizing the attendance and commentary from each of the meetings. He then introduced guest facilitator Susan Zurbuchen from the Butler University Arts Administration faculty, who opened a discussion of the latest version of the IAC's Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives (copy attached). Several Commissioners made specific suggestions regarding the top objectives and initial strategies. Mr. Ricci suggested that a final draft could be prepared for the next meeting of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee which will be on February 16th. Commissioner Goad and Commissioner Yager offered their help in writing the draft.

8. Old Business. Mr. Stifel remarked that IAC needs for more communities to apply to host future Governor's Arts Awards. Although he is very happy that his hometown of South Bend was selected to host the 2011 awards program, he emphasized what a great opportunity it can be for a community to be spotlighted on a state-wide stage by hosting the GAA. More communities should be encouraged to apply.

9. New Business. Ms. Britsch circulated a sign-up sheet for Commissioners to volunteer to be panel facilitators for various IAC grant panels beginning soon after the first of the year. Mr. Ricci suggested that applications for Cultural District Designation should not be accepted for 2012, since no communities were selected for 2011; perhaps communities which are on the way to becoming designees could use an extra year to develop plans and budgets. Mr. Stifel expressed some concern over holding

panels no more often than every two years. A discussion could be included in the next Quarterly Business Meeting, which will be on March 11, 2011.

10. **Closing Comments.** Ms. Mirro thanked everyone for their participation, and stressed the importance of attendance at all IAC meetings.

11. **Adjourn.** Ms. Ellerbrook moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Goad seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.